

Public Health Service, HHS

§ 102.42

§ 102.40 How to obtain forms and instructions.

Interested parties may obtain copies of all necessary forms and instructions by sending a letter through the U.S. Postal Service, commercial carrier, or private courier service, by telephone, or by downloading them from the Program's website.

(a) If using the U.S. Postal Service, interested parties should send letters asking for forms and instructions to the Smallpox Vaccine Injury Compensation Program Office, Healthcare Systems Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Room 11C-06, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

(b) If using a commercial carrier or private courier service, interested parties should send letters asking for forms and instructions to the Smallpox Vaccine Injury Compensation Program Office, Healthcare Systems Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Room 11C-06, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857.

(c) For forms and instructions, interested parties can call (888) 496-0338. This is a toll-free number.

(d) Interested parties can download forms and instructions from the Internet at <http://www.hrsa.gov/smallpoxinjury>. Click on the link to "Forms and Instructions."

[68 FR 70096, Dec. 16, 2003, as amended at 71 FR 29810, May 24, 2006]

§ 102.41 How to file a Request Package.

A Request Package comprises all the forms and documentation that are submitted to enable the Secretary to determine eligibility and calculate payments. Request Packages may be filed through the U.S. Postal Service, commercial carrier, or private courier service. The Smallpox Vaccine Injury Compensation Program Office will not accept Request Packages electronically or by hand-delivery.

(a) If using the U.S. Postal Service, requesters (or their representatives) should send all forms and documentation to the Smallpox Vaccine Injury Compensation Program Office, Healthcare Systems Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administra-

tion, Parklawn Building, Room 11C-06, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

(b) If using a commercial carrier or private courier service, requesters (or their representatives) should send all forms and documentation to the Smallpox Vaccine Injury Compensation Program Office, Healthcare Systems Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, Parklawn Building, Room 11C-06, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20857.

[68 FR 70096, Dec. 16, 2003, as amended at 71 FR 29810, May 24, 2006]

§ 102.42 Deadlines for filing request forms.

(a) *General.* Filing deadlines vary depending on whether the injured individual is a smallpox vaccine recipient or a vaccinia contact. In all cases, the filing date is the date the Request Form is postmarked. A legibly dated receipt from a commercial carrier, a private courier service, or the U.S. Postal Service (e.g., the date that a commercial carrier places on the package at the time of drop-off) will be considered equivalent to a postmark. A Request Form will not be considered filed unless it has been completed (to the fullest extent possible) and signed by the requester or his or her representative. After filing a Request Form within the governing filing deadline, a requester can and should update the Request Form to reflect new information.

(b) *Request forms not filed within deadline.* If the Secretary determines that a Request Form was not filed within the governing filing deadline set out in this section, the Request Form will not be processed and the requester will not be entitled to any benefits under this Program.

(c) *Smallpox vaccine recipients.* All Request Forms filed by, or on behalf of, a smallpox vaccine recipient must be filed within one year of the date of the administration of a smallpox vaccine to the smallpox vaccine recipient. This deadline also applies to a deceased smallpox vaccine recipient's survivor(s) and the representative of his or

her estate. This deadline applies to Request Forms concerning injuries resulting from the administration of a smallpox vaccine or other covered countermeasures.

(d) *Vaccinia contacts.* All Request Forms filed by, or on behalf of, a vaccinia contact must be filed within two years after the date of the first symptom or manifestation of onset of the covered injury in the vaccinia contact. This deadline also applies to a deceased vaccinia contact's survivor(s) and the representative of his or her estate. This deadline applies to Request Forms concerning injuries resulting from vaccinia contracted through accidental vaccinia inoculation or from the administration of covered countermeasures (other than the smallpox vaccine) as a result of such accidental vaccinia inoculation.

(e) *Request forms (or amendments to request forms) based on modifications to the table of injuries.* The Secretary may amend the Table set forth in § 102.21. The effect of such an amendment may enable a requester who previously could not establish a Table injury to establish a Table injury. In such circumstances, the requester must file a new Request Form or an amendment to a previously filed Request Form as follows:

(1) If the injured person is a smallpox vaccine recipient, within one year after the effective date of the amendment to the Table; or

(2) If the injured person is a vaccinia contact, within two years after the effective date of the amendment to the Table.

§ 102.43 Deadlines for submitting documentation.

(a) *Documentation for eligibility determinations.* All eligibility documentation required by the Program should be filed together with the Request Form. However, if this is not possible, a requester will satisfy the filing deadline as long as the signed Request Form is completed (to the fullest extent possible) and submitted within the governing filing deadline described in § 102.42. The Secretary will not generally begin his review of a requester's eligibility until the documentation necessary for the Secretary to make

this determination has been submitted. All such documentation must be submitted before the Program terminates.

(b) *Documentation for benefits determinations.* Although the Secretary will accept documentation required to make benefits determinations (*i.e.*, calculate benefits available, if any) at the time the Request Form is filed or any time thereafter, requesters need not submit such documentation until they have been notified that the Secretary has determined eligibility. The Secretary will not generally begin his review of the benefits available to a requester until the documentation necessary for the Secretary to make a benefits determination has been submitted. All such documentation must be submitted before the Program terminates.

§ 102.44 Representatives of requesters.

(a) Persons other than a requester (*e.g.*, a lawyer, guardian, friend) may file a Request Package on a requester's behalf as his or her representative. A requester need not use the services of a lawyer to secure benefits under this Program. A representative (who does not need to be a lawyer) is only required, as described in this section, for requesters who are minors or legally incompetent adults. In the event that a representative files on behalf of a requester, the representative will be bound by the obligations and documentation requirements that apply to the requester (*e.g.*, if a requester is required to submit employment records, the representative must file the requester's employment records). The representative must also satisfy the requirements specific to representatives set forth in this regulation. If a requester has a representative, all communications from the Secretary will be directed exclusively to the representative.

(b) *Representatives of legally competent adults.* A requester who is a legally competent adult *may* use a representative to submit a Request Package on his or her behalf. In such circumstances, the requester must certify on the Request Form that he or she is authorizing the representative to pursue benefits under this Program on his or her behalf.